



News Release

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360-236-4074
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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In July 2011 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Scott Kelly Akridge** (CH00001581) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly billed patients' insurance companies for treatment not provided or charted in patient records.

Chelan County

In July 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Eric T. Erickson** (RN00163692) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly diverted percocet from a patient for his own use.

Clark County

In July 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Ann N. Durst** (CO60224998) and placed conditions against her certification. In 2009 her license to practice as a registered nurse was placed on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

King County

In July 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Dawn Marie Brown** (RN60026002) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly walked away from her place of employment without permission to leave her assignment and without informing her supervisors or co-workers, and tested positive for drugs during random drug tests.

In July 2011 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Hashim Chothia** (DE00006778) with unprofessional conduct. The care he provided allegedly fell below the standard when he replaced a bridge and placed crowns on a patient.

In July 2011 the Massage Program granted the application of **Ralph Jacob Curtiss** (MA60221863) and placed conditions against his license. Between May 1981 and February 1999 he was convicted of four counts of burglary, two counts of attempted burglary, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, and possession of stolen property. In 2002 he was convicted of violations of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act — possession of heroin and possession of cocaine, and in 2004 he was convicted of two counts of burglary. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In July 2011 the Unlicensed Practice Program issued a notice of intent to issue cease and desist order to **Shareen L. Salo**. She allegedly practiced as a massage therapist and represented herself as a licensed massage therapist when billing a patient for treatment provided. She also allegedly forcefully lifted the patient under her arms, popping several of her vertebrae, resulting in patient harm. Her license to practice as a massage therapist has been expired since 2004.

Kitsap County

In July 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Annette K. Cochran** (NA00051149) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In July 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered and certified nursing assistant **Stephen A. Turner** (NA60027078, NC60027077) with unprofessional conduct. In 2009 he was convicted of trafficking in stolen property.

Mason County

In July 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Steven Michael Dorland** (CO60225022) and placed his certification on probation for two years. In 2007 he was convicted of theft. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

Pierce County

In July 2011 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Amos P. Brinkley III** (LP00037369) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly administered insulin to a patient without an order and without consulting other members of the patient's medical team.

In July 2011 the Nursing Commission amended the statement of charges against licensed practical nurse **Clarice C. Freeman** (LP00046535). In 2009 she was convicted of reckless driving and two counts of hit and run unattended vehicle, and in 2010 she was convicted of failure to remain at injury accident.

In July 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Brandi D. Parker** (NC10093525) with unprofessional conduct. In 2001 she was convicted of possession of marijuana, in 2008 she was convicted of theft, and driving under the influence. In 2009 she was convicted of custodial assault, driving under the influence, attempted unlawful possession of controlled substance, theft, negligent driving, bail jumping, and in 2010 she was convicted of trafficking in stolen property.

In July 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program charged **Jennifer J. Sterling** (HC00154061) with unprofessional conduct. In January 2011 she entered into a deferred sentence for the charge of unlawful solicitation to possess a controlled substance.

Snohomish County

In July 2011 the Board of Psychology granted the application of **Lisa Marie Sullivan** (PY00003859) and placed conditions against her license. From April 2007 to May 2010 she advertised and practiced as a psychologist before obtaining a valid credential. In April 2011 terms and conditions were also set against her license to practice as a mental health counselor. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Spokane County

In June 2011 the Nursing Commission placed the license of registered nurse **Andreas Fischer** (RN60093799) on probation for one year. He surrendered his license to practice as a registered and public health nurse in the state of California. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

Stevens County

In July 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Brandon S. Garris** (NC10063700) with unprofessional conduct. In 2006 he was convicted of reckless endangerment, and possession of stolen property, and in February 2011 he was convicted of voyeurism.

Thurston County

In June 2011 the Nursing Commission placed the license of registered nurse **Russell J. Huebner** (RN00176359) on probation for two years. In December 2010 the Arizona State Board of Nursing revoked his license to practice as a registered nurse in that state. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In July 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Susan M. Stecher** (NA60177300) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly stole ring sets from patients

and pawned them. In 2010 she was convicted of theft, in March 2011 she was convicted of violation of no-contact order, and in May 2011 she was convicted of two counts of theft, and two counts of trafficking stolen property.

Yakima County

In July 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Andrea S. Villa** (NC10075593) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly solicited and accepted a loan for \$4,700 from a patient.

Out of State

Idaho: In July 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program denied the application of **Steven Lee Mingus** (HC60171362). In 1997 he was convicted of carrying a loaded firearm in a vehicle, in 1999 he entered a diversion program for the charges of possession of a controlled substance, and in 2007 he was charged with battery — domestic violence ,and charged with disturbing the peace.

Oregon: In July 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Jennifer L. Baird** (RN00166071) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Oregon: In July 2011 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program charged emergency medical technician **Dennis J. Kleffner** (ES01175289) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly submitted an application for re-certification with a forged signature of the medical program director for Kittitas County.

Oregon: In July 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Anna C. Smith** (RN00170868) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her license. In 2010 her license to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Oregon was revoked by the Oregon State Board of Nursing.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).